

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 8 and 15 being the independent claims. Claims 1-21 stand rejected. Applicants herein amend claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 15 – 19, and 21, and cancel claims 6, 13, and 20. As a result, claims 1 – 5, 7 – 12, 14 – 19, and 21 are pending.

Objections to the Specification

The specification stands as objected due to various informalities. Applicants have amended the specification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objections are overcome.

Claim Rejections 35 USC §101

Claims 8 – 14 and 15 – 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter. Without conceding whether claims 8 – 21 are directed to non-statutory subjected matter, and in the interest of furthering prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 8 – 21. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are overcome.

Claim Rejections 35 USC §102(b)

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Leach et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,412,020 (“Leach”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. In an Office Action dated June 5, 2007, the Examiner rejected claim 6 and stated that that Leach does not disclose “providing a first delegate object associated with said base project object; and providing a second delegate object associated with one of said at least on flavor objects, where said second delegate object extends the functionality of said first delegate object” (Office Action dated June 5, 2007 at page 18). In order to cure Leach’s deficiencies, the Examiner relied on Williams et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,256,780.

Applicants respectfully submit that Leach in view of Williams fails to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 1. More specifically, Applicants submit that col. 4, lines 7 – 43 fail to teach or suggest at least “creating, by the at least one flavor object, a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property” as presented in claim 1. According to Williams, “each connector is a connector object that provides behavior for registering the components and connections to be exposed and for exposing the registered components and connections” (Williams at col. 3, lines 63 – 67), and “[t]he connector object delegates the process of establishing a connection to a component object.” (*Id* at col. 4, lines 7 – 8). FIG. 1 illustrates an assembly 103 that comprises elements and “the term element refers to a component that is not an assembly.” (*Id* at col. 4, lines 55-56). Each element in the assembly is exposed through a connector and is assigned an identifier within the connector, and when an external entity sends a request to establish a connection, the connector object requests that the component object perform the connection. (See, e.g., *Id* at col. 4, lines 12 – 15, and col. 4, lines 59 – 67 through col. 5 lines 1 - 20). Accordingly, since Leach in view of Williams fails to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection to claim 1.

Independent claims 15 and 21 recite similar elements to those of claim 1, Applicants submit that they too patentably define over Leach in view of Williams. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection to claims 14 and 21.

Insomuch as claims 2 – 5, 7, 9, 14, 16 – 19, and 21 depend directly or indirectly from claims 1, 15, or 21 they too patentably define over Leach in view of Williams. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection to claims 2 – 5, 7, 9, 14, 16 – 19, and 21.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance of all claims.

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